

BONNEY LAKE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
Commitment • Character • Excellence

2007 YEAR END REPORT



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## Message From the Chief

### Mike L. Mitchell



It is my pleasure to bring to you the 2007 Annual Report. There has been many changes this past year and we have made great strides to provide the quality law enforcement the citizens of Bonney Lake have grown accustomed to. I am in my second year as the Chief of Bonney Lake Police.

The Bonney Lake Police Department is a full service law enforcement agency comprised of 29 commissioned officers, to include the Chief of Police, Assistant Chief, 5 Sergeants, 3 Detectives, 15 Patrol Officer's, 2 Traffic Officer's, 1 School Resource Officer, 2 Community Service Officer. We are supported by 1 part time Community Service Officer/Crime Analyst, 1 part time Office Assistant, 1 part time bailiff, 3 records clerks, 4 volunteers, 1 chaplain and currently have one Reserve Officer in the Acad-

emy.

Our dedicated team of men and women that make up the Bonney Lake Police Department are committed to the principle guiding values of Integrity, Commitment, Character and Pride that provide the excellent service our citizens have grown to expect.

In 2007, we hired and trained 2 new commissioned officers, 1 community service officer and 1 records clerk. We promoted an assistant chief and one sergeant. The Bonney Lake Police Department is committed to the training and development of our personnel. Last year our department logged over 4000 hours of training and will continue to make this a top priority.

We continue to partner with outside jurisdictions for better communication, asset and personnel sharing. By working with other agencies we are better prepared to combat the mobile criminal that are not bound by jurisdictional lines. We are excited to continue working with the community and being involved to keep Bonney Lake a safe place to raise a family and to own a business.

In this report you will find the highlights of 2007. Thanks to all that support our mission and goals.

*Mike L. Mitchell*  
Chief of Police

#### **The Department Mission**

To provide quality police service with trust, integrity and respect, while enforcing state and municipal laws to provide a safe environment while encouraging active community participation.



# 2007 Organizational Chart





# Investigations Unit

Det. Sgt. J. Miller

Det. Byerley, Det. Alfano & Det. Morrow

The Investigations unit is staffed by a Detective Sergeant, two general detectives and one part-time detective. The part-time detectives are assigned to the patrol division and split time with assisting in investigations. In addition, the Investigations Unit has a full-time narcotics detective assigned to the DEA task force. The Investigation Unit worked on over 195 cases in 2007, most of which were felony crimes. Of those cases investigated, the detectives maintained a 40% clearance by arrest rate and were responsible for 79 arrests of individuals. The national average is 30% clearance rate.

The Investigations Unit worked on many serious felony crimes that consisted of sexual crimes, crimes against children, fraud and felony assault/domestic violence. Some of the highlighted cases from 2007 are as follows: In early spring, the Detectives investigated several felony assaults where individuals sustained serious stab wounds. In both cases, the suspect was identified and arrested. Investigations also tackled a significant ID Theft Ring, where the individuals involved were stealing victim’s identities and making fraudulent checks and cashing them at local businesses. Over fifteen victims were identified and several arrests were made. An investigation of a large commercial burglary of a retirement home netted the arrests of several juveniles. The juveniles broke into the building just after the completion of construction and caused several hundred dollars damage. During the late spring into early summer, Investigations unit followed up on a large burglary case where several high powered firearms were stolen. Through small leads, several arrests were made and the firearms were recovered along with a significant amount of drugs.

During the summer, detectives conducted undercover surveillance at Allan Yorke Park. Detectives were able to make several alcohol related arrests, investigated sexual conduct complaints and drug related offenses. The Investigations Unit performed proactive narcotics surveillance in the parking lots of several major shopping centers. These activities resulted in numerous arrests, large quantities of narcotics and some firearms seizures. Finally in late summer, graffiti began showing up on several residences and businesses in the city. With little or no leads, detectives were able to develop a suspect and obtain a confession. The individual was a juvenile, who committed the crimes with a friend. The Investigations Unit also participates in the Crime Response Unit (C.R.U.), a multi-jurisdictional investigations team for major crimes. Detectives assisted in several homicide/suspicious death cases in Lakewood, Puyallup and Sumner police departments.

The Investigations Unit received new digital surveillance equipment in 2007. The equipment is extremely high tech and will enable detectives to perform surveillance in a more efficient, covert manner. Detectives attended Homicide Investigation training, Water Related Homicide Training, and several forensic crime scene training classes. The Investigations Unit strives to use cutting edge technology and attend the most up to date training to provide the best service to the citizens.

2007 Investigations Statistics

**Cases referred to investigation– 198**  
**Investigations cases closed– 181**  
**Investigations cases charged-Felony–41**  
**Investigations cases charged-Misdemeanor–32**  
**Registered Sex Offenders Monitored– 28**  
**Clearance by arrest rate = 79**  
**(National average = 30)**



# Records and Administration

Sgt. Maras  
Barb Wigton, Louise Emry, Heather Tower and Jaime Amsbaugh

In 2007 the records unit welcomed yet another new Records Clerk. Jaime Amsbaugh joined the department in April and is a great addition to the unit. In May part-time clerk Margie Radach left after helping BLPD for two years.

Records Clerk Barb Wigton was re-assigned and is now assisting the Detectives part-time and still helps the records clerks with their workload when needed.

Administrative Assistant Louise Emry has taken over the duties of keeping track of all department issued equipment and training. Louise continues to assist the Chief and Assistant Chief and helps the records clerks when needed.

The entire records division continues to provide the public with outstanding, professional, friendly service.



(pictured L to R: Wigton, Emry, Tower, Amsbaugh)

<u>2006 Records Totals</u>		<u>2007 Records Totals</u>	
<b>Case Reports</b>	<b>3,601</b>	<b>Case Reports</b>	<b>3,256</b>
<b>Concealed Pistol Licenses</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>Concealed Pistol Licenses</b>	<b>140</b>
<b>Fingerprint Service</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>Fingerprint Service</b>	<b>259</b>

## New Faces and Promotions in 2007

In 2007 Bonney Lake Police Department re-organized. An Assistant Chief's position was created, while the Lieutenant's position was not filled. By doing this we were able to create a K-9 position and hire another officer. We welcomed two new lateral officer's this year. Robert "Bob" Kocher was hired in June after he spent 13 years with Pierce County as a Deputy. James Keller was hired in November after spending 10 years with King County as a Deputy. Both Officers come to Bonney Lake sharing a wealth of information and knowledge and we are happy they are with us. In April 2007, we hired Jaime Amsbaugh as a records clerk. Amsbaugh came to us from Fife Police Department where she was a 911 police dispatcher. Tobie Johnston was a Pierce County Correctional Officer prior to being hired as our second Community Service Officer in November.

### PROMOTIONS

In July Dana Powers went through the testing process for Assistant Chief and was promoted in August. In October six Officer's went through a Sergeant's promotional assessment center and oral boards. Detective McDonough was promoted to Patrol Sergeant November 1, 2007, Officer Morrow was promoted to a Narcotics Detective when Detective Alfano left the DEA task force and was re-assigned to our investigations unit.



## Crime Prevention and Community Events

Sgt. Maras

CSO Flaherty, CSO Johnston, CSO/CA Miller, Bailiff Frazier

This year has been filled with progress and growth. Staff and equipment have been added to support our Crime Prevention efforts. In November 2007 CSO Tobie Johnston joined our Department as a lateral transfer from Pierce County Sheriff's Office. Tobie Johnston is currently in the Reserve Academy in Fife and will graduate in May. While still in training she has allowed us to streamline our Property Room operations and become more proactive in Crime Prevention in our community. In August a new radar trailer was added to assist in traffic safety in the school zones. The added unit has been used for traffic calming and specific speed studies.

There continues to be more than enough prisoners and felons to transport to and from the jails of Pierce and King County. CSO's have transported over 550 prisoners to and from jail for booking or appearances at Bonney Lake Municipal Court. We have expanded court security adding Monday's due to the increased numbers of review hearings and court sessions to accommodate photo enforcement. The prisoner transport van, has logged over 9,000 miles in its first year of service.

Other areas of CSO's responsibility include Electronic Home Monitoring (EHM), Crime Prevention, Community Block Watch, and National Night Out, Citizens Academy support, Volunteers, Radar Trailer/Neighbor Speed Watch, Property Room and BLPD officer support.

The EHM program in 2007 provided 77 days of monitoring for a savings of \$4004.00 in jail costs.

Crime prevention efforts included annual safety meetings with local banks regarding alarm procedures. The Bonney Lake Retail Forum was formed by CSO Laura Miller and meets monthly with our local business.

In May we teamed up with our School Resource Officer, Sumner School District and Federal Law Enforcement to provide ID Kits for school kids in Bonney Lake. We had a strong presence at the annual East Pierce Fire and Rescue open house. With the help of BLPD volunteers we attended numerous safety fairs. We provided crime prevention information, instruction and practice for kids on our 911 Simulator. Over 259 children used our 911 simulator during the open house.

Significant progress was made in our property room. The computer system was updated and links were provided to current records system creating more integrated property form and tracking system. Changes to the system have resulted in more efficient property return.

Efforts to gather information on Home Owner Associations has resulted in a contact list which was used to contact and develop more Block Watch Neighborhoods in 2007. Using our local Home Owner Associations as the core of our Block Watch programs has provided a basis for continued development in 2008.

McGruff the Crime Dog was a big hit at National Night Out and Bonney Lake Days in August, and the Open House in September where he provided crime prevention, safety tips and security. McGruff has continued to show his support during various charitable events. He has also attended all of our major crime prevention and safety events in 2007.

National Night Out was held on the first Tuesday in August. Volunteers staffed the Police Department's booth, combined with the help of 25 local businesses and community agencies participating with either booths or donations made for an excellent family event. New this year was a bouncy toy and a T-Shirt canon which was a big hit with the kids.

In December we participated in "Shop with a Cop" at the Bonney Lake Target along with our volunteers, support staff and police officers. The Police Department working with our SRO and Sumner School District, and donations from Target, helped to make Christmas a little happier for some Bonney Lake children.

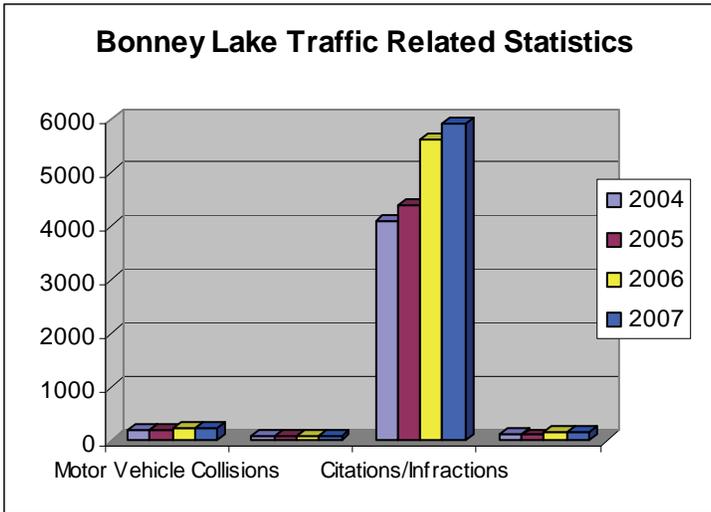
This year we received two grants in support of our crime prevention program. Wall\*Mart presented us a check for \$1000.00 and Fred Meyer presented us one for \$400.00.

Our volunteer program grew to five in 2007 and will continue to expand in 2008. They play such an important role taking more crime prevention programs to the Bonney Lake Community. They work as McGruff, with the Christmas food drive, with the radar trailer and at all of the crime prevention and safety fairs. They play such a huge role in our success and with this I'll close saying thank you to our volunteers!



# Traffic Unit

Sgt. Longtine  
Ofc. Sainati and Ofc. Torgerson



2007 was a busy year for BLPD’s Traffic Unit. Officers Sainati and Torgerson spent the year actively seeking both civil and criminal traffic violations, as well as investigating collisions.

The two officers wrote a total of 1674 criminal and civil traffic tickets. This was despite Officer Sainati being injured and his motorcycle being totaled in a collision in September. Officer Sainati had been on-duty riding his motorcycle, when a pick-up truck turned in front of him. Although not seriously injured, Officer Sainati was out of commission for a couple of months, until he was released to active duty by his physician. Officer Sainati was outfitted with a BMW motorcycle.

The Street of the Week program continued through the year. BLPD continued supporting the Pierce County DUI Task Force, by continuing participation in monthly

DUI Emphasis Patrols. The photo Lidar program for school zones was suspended indefinitely in June of 2007.

Overall, the total number of Traffic Infractions issued by BLPD Officers (including both traffic and patrol officers) was 5013. This amounts to a 3.9% increase over 2006. Officers arrested 150 DUI’s in 2007, a 2% increase over 2006. Criminal Traffic charges increased by 12.1% to a total of 896.

Investigated collisions actually decreased slightly in 2007, with a total of 226 investigated collisions. Several of these collisions required call out of the department’s Technical Collision Investigative Team. One of these incidents was a fatality collision. The department implemented a new software program for completion of Washington State Collision Forms. These reports were previously completed by hand, and the software saves a great amount of time.

	Motor Vehicle	Hit & Runs	Citations/Infractions	DUI Arrests
<b>2004</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>4095</b>	<b>113</b>
<b>2005</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>4386</b>	<b>105</b>
<b>2006</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>5625</b>	<b>147</b>
<b>2007</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>5909</b>	<b>150</b>

## Reserve Police Officer Program

In 2007 we hired one Reserve Officer and after she graduated from the Reserve Academy she decided to discontinue working as a reserve. Officer Ryan Boyle took the reserve program over and began the testing process in August. After several months of testing we hired Jery Wilson as Reserve Officer to begin the reserve academy in January 2008.



# Marine Services Unit

Sgt. McDonough,

Ofc. Sainati, Ofc. Hoag, Ofc. Wolschleger, Ofc. Carter, Ofc. Boyle, Ofc. VanSickle, Ofc. Vance, Ofc. Rice and Ofc. Morrow.

In 2007, the Marine Services Unit continued to grow as the Bonney Lake Police Department grew. The MSU staff for 2007 consisted of a sergeant and eight assigned officers with other officers acting in alternate or training positions. Two MSU officers attended the Basic Marine Law Enforcement course. As always, the Marine Services Unit began the year with a meeting welcoming aboard new members, going over unit procedures and talking about scheduling issues. Our MSU patrol vessel, the M.D. Jennings, received a facelift this year with new graphics matching the Bonney Lake Police cars. Also added was a new GPS/depth finder device to the MSU patrol vessel. MSU members used this new equipment to GPS locate the buoys maintained by the Marine Services Unit in the City of Bonney Lake water ways.

Activity for the Marine Services Unit was greatly reduced in 2007 due to the delayed filling and low water levels in Lake Tapps. By the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend, water levels were at a record low for our lake and drew much media attention. Because of this situation, MSU patrol static's were drastically affected with lower activity than reported in previous years. Another contributing factor was the poor weather throughout the summer of 2007. On a positive note, there were no collisions or deaths investigations conducted by the Marine Services Unit.

Marine Services Unit members taught 8 classes in water safety to local pre-school and elementary schools with a total of approximately 137 students taught. MSU members also participated in the East Pierce Fire & Rescue's water safety event at the Pierce County Park on Lake Tapps. Another event attended by the Marine Services Unit was a display at the Police & Fire Departments' Open House. Along with our typical patrol & education duties, the Marine Services Unit also assisted with the problems and challenges of a growing park user population at Allen Yorke Park and the park's new bollard system at the public boat launch. MSU members assisted park officers with calls for service at the park and traffic control during overcrowded days. The MSU members also assisted citizens with the new boat launch bollards procedures.

Our goal for next year is to begin teaching the new Washington State Parks Mandatory Boating Safety Education course to Bonney Lake citizens and other local area residents. This Boating Safety course provides a certification card to operate a vessel in Washington State. With the new requirements for this certification beginning in 2008, the Marine Services Unit will teach students boating safety, marine related laws and overall boating information. Four MSU members attended the fall Marine Services Conference in Everett where they were certified as instructors for the WA State Boating Safety Education course.

Equipment goals or needs for 2008 continue to be a boat lift for the MSU patrol vessel. The Marine Services Unit has started looking into a replacement patrol vessel, hopefully through grants currently being researched. New types and models of patrol vessels are being considered by the Marine Services Unit for the coming years.

	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
<b>Patrol hours:</b>	117.5	198.5	69	160	50.5
<b>Ramp inspection hours:</b>	20	92	16	48.5	35
<b>Written inspections</b>	99	262	120	237	111
<b>Passing:</b>	23	93	44	64	30
<b>Failing:</b>	76	169	76	173	81
<b>Citations:</b>	22	52	22	33	15
<b>MSU complaints:</b>	11	23	67	14	
<b>Search &amp; rescue:</b>	9	20	6	9	10
<b>Collision investigations:</b>	0	5	2	6	2



## School Resource Officer

Sgt. Maras  
Ofc. Rice

The Bonney Lake Police Department has one full time officer currently on special assignment as the School Resource Officer (SRO). The SRO works with Sumner School district to provide enhanced Security at all four schools located with in the City of Bonney Lake.

City wide the number of arrests for juveniles has declined in crimes such as Theft, and Vandalism. There was an increase, 28 %, in drug related arrests involving Juveniles from the previous year. The SRO works closely with the School District to ensure all students are afforded an opportunity to attend safe schools. The SRO also works closely with the Juvenile Court Prosecutor, and Juvenile Probation to identify Youth at Risk.

The SRO also interacts with the schools on multiple other programs such as: Senior project mentor, presentation board for school projects, attending community related meetings dealing with safety issues, Issues of public behavior for juveniles, open houses, assemblies, food drives and monitoring of recess activities in the elementary schools.

The SRO program is one example of the Bonney Lake Police Department's commitment to community partnerships.



Bonney Lake High School





# Special Weapons And Tactics (SWAT)

Sgt. Sasaki  
Ofc. Kiblinger



Metro SWAT is a multi-agency tactical team which consists of officers from the Bonney Lake, Dupont, Fife, Lakewood, Milton, Orting, Puyallup, Roy, Steilacoom, and Sumner Police Departments. Metro SWAT is responsible for responding to high-risk incidents in the participating cities.

Metro SWAT successfully completed 19 missions in 2007, down from 28 missions the previous year. In 2007, Metro SWAT was utilized for 12 barricaded subjects, 6 high-risk warrants, and a hostage rescue incident where the team saved an infant being held hostage.

In addition to responding to high-risk situations, members of Metro SWAT also provides tactical training to police agencies in the area.

The Bonney Lake Police Department currently has two officers (one entry vacancy and one negotiator vacancy) who are members of Metro SWAT. In April, the two Bonney Lake officers went to a police sniper training conference which included a 2-day competition designed to test and train the officers for real-world events. The City of Bonney Lake was well represented by its officers who placed 6<sup>th</sup> out of 62 teams from Federal, State, and Municipal agencies from across the United States and South America.



## *Metro SWAT Training Photographs*





# 2007 Crime and Statistics

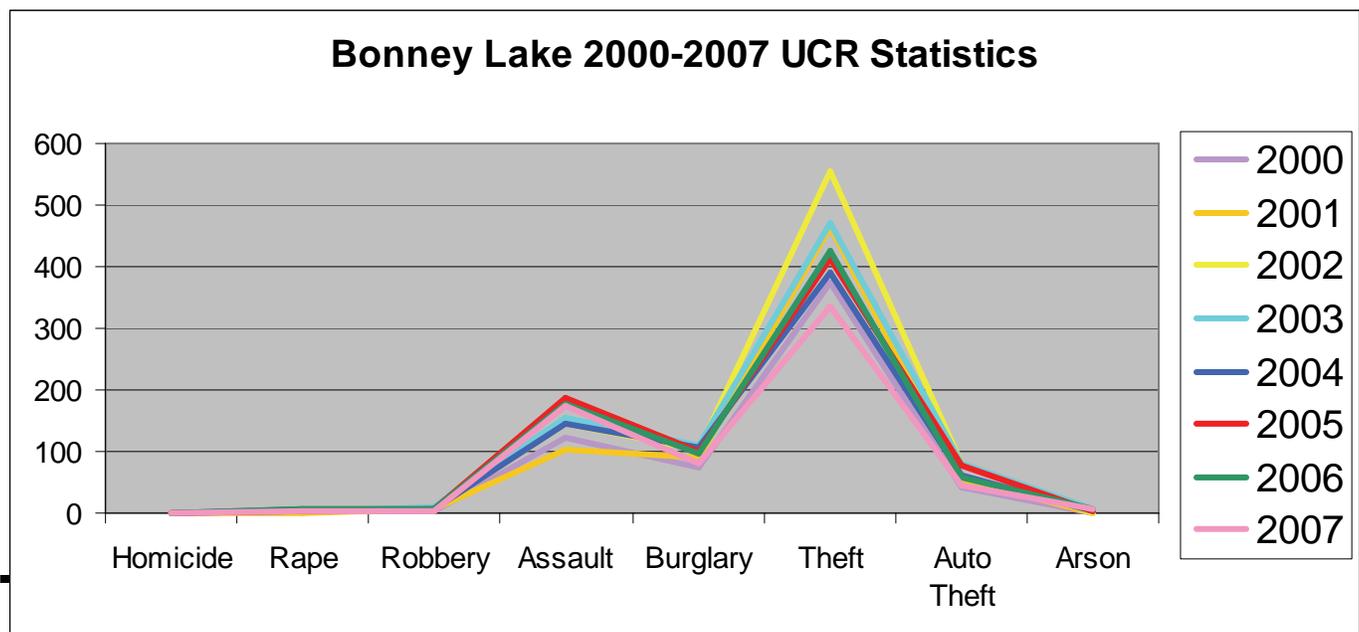
Sgt. Maras  
CA L. Miller

	Homicide	Rape	Robbery	Assault	Burglary	Theft	Auto Theft	Arson	Total
<b>2000</b>	1	3	3	121	73	373	41	0	615
<b>2001</b>	0	1	8	102	91	463	54	0	719
<b>2002</b>	0	6	7	144	102	555	80	0	894
<b>2003</b>	0	3	11	154	111	472	80	6	829
<b>2004</b>	0	5	7	144	107	390	61	4	718
<b>2005</b>	0	3	6	188	100	412	78	3	797
<b>2006</b>	0	5	5	178	96	427	57	7	775
<b>2007</b>	0	3	4	173	81	337	46	5	649

Overall, Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) statistics were down by 16.3 % in 2007 compared to 2006. These crimes include Homicide, Rape, Robbery, Assault, Arson, Auto Theft, Burglary and Theft. The population of Bonney Lake increased from 15,230 in 2006 to 15,740 in 2007 while the UCR crimes decreased from 775 reported in 2006 compared to 649 reported in 2007. This comparative actually reveals an even lower rate of victimization per resident.

While overall crime rates are down in Bonney Lake, there are two specific areas in which an increase is noted. Although the overall numbers are very low, an increase of simple assaults increased by 2.8% and Shoplift increased by 3.6%. DUI arrests also increased by 2%.

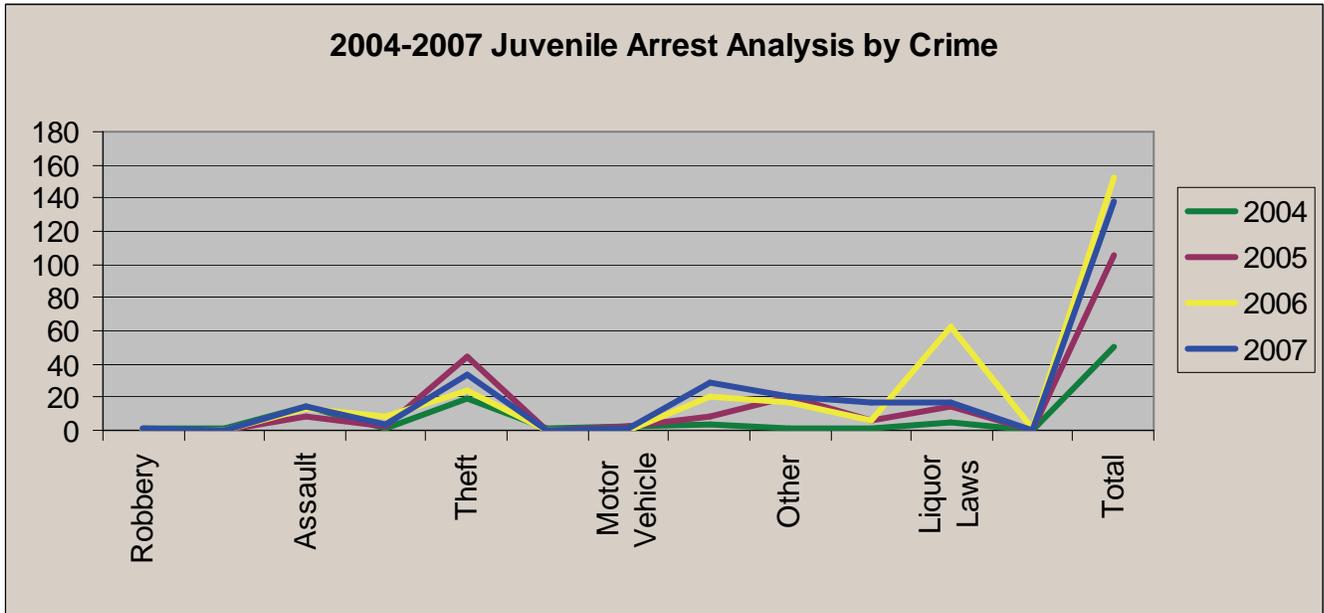
Crime Rates for Bonney Lake are at their lowest since the year 2000. While there are no definitive reasons to explain such a significant decrease, many factors have contributed to this successful outcome. First, staffing levels were brought up to a level which allows Officers to become proactive instead of simply reactive. The visibility of Patrol Officers in the community are an effective and obvious crime deterrent. Secondly, the use of Crime Analysis teamed with the Investigative Unit enables Detectives to stop serial crimes prior to substantial damage occurring. Examples of this include Motor Vehicle Theft, Burglary, Graffiti, Vehicle Prowl and Drug Trafficking. Public Education continued to be a focus in 2007 with a Retail Partnership Forum added to the Police-Community Partnership Programs.





# 2007 Crime and Statistics Cont.

Sgt. Maras  
CA L. Miller



Juvenile Arrests	2004	2005	2006	2007
Robbery	1	0	0	1
Rape	1	0	0	0
Assault	14	9	13	15
Burglary	1	2	8	4
Theft	19	44	24	34
Arson	1	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft/PSP	2	3	0	1
Drugs	4	8	21	29
Other	1	20	17	20
Vandalism	1	6	6	17
Liquor Laws	5	14	63	17
Forgery	0	0	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>138</b>



2007  
Year End Awards

2007 Awards

Police Officer of the Year ~ Officer Tony Rice  
Support Person of the Year ~ Heather Tower  
Reserve Officer of the Year ~ Vacant  
Outstanding Service Award ~ Detective Sergeant Miller  
Medal of Merit ~ Detective K. Alfano



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